

TIME

Thirty years ago I thought him and Henry Sidgwick the most delightful company of our generation; and Sidgwick is gone. For ten years I sat next Morley in the House of Commons, and it was a great antidote to the dreariness and bad rhetoric which was the prevailing atmosphere of that, as I suppose of all national assemblies. I have never heard from him a sentence, or read from him a letter, which was dull or common."

Boosevelt's reply to this letter, under date of November 24, 1904, gives an interesting glimpse of his reading during the campaign for his election to the presidency:

"I was saying the other day to John Morley how much I regretted that it did not seem likely that you could get over here. By the way, Morley spent three or four days with us, and I found him as delightful a companion as one could wish to have, and I quite understand the comfort he must have been to you when you sat beside him in the House. Incidentally, it is rather a relief to have you speak as you do about the tedious and trivial quality of most of the eloquence in the House. I am glad to find that it is characteristic of all parliamentary bodies, and not merely of those of my own country 1

"In my hours of leisure (during the campaign) I did a good deal of reading. I re-read your history of our Revolution and liked it more than ever, but came to the conclusion that you had painted us a little too favorably. I also re-read both your Macaulay and your Fox, and then re-read Macaulay '84 & * History.* When I had

finished it I felt
a higher regard for Mm as a great writer, and
as in the
truest of the word a great philosophical
historian,
I have ever felt before. It is a pretty good
test of
a history to have a President who is also a
candidate
for the Presidency read it in the midst of a
campaign.

ⁱⁱ I a number of other books during the
campaign;
Mstory, for instance, and a good deal of
In the American characters in ^c Martin
Chuzzle-
witj[?] Dickens made a mistake in generalizing
and insisting